

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

None of the claims are amended herein.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 18-34 are currently pending and under consideration in the present application.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 18-24, 33 AND 34 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) AS BEING ANTICIPATED BY BILLSTRÖM ET AL. (USP# 5,590,133)

Billström discloses that a packet data channel (PDCH) is allocated temporarily on user demand or, in case of continuous packet data traffic, on a semi-permanent basis or dynamically adapted to the current load situation. The PDCHs are used for data transfer and associated control signaling. See column 6, line 66 - column 7, line 18 of Billström.

Billström also discloses that a mobile station (MS) is registered in its current Mobile Services Switching Center/Visitor Location Register (MSC/VLR) as being in packet data (PD) mode. The GSM system provides system mechanisms for fast packet transfer, including maintenance of authentication, avoiding time consuming authentication procedure, and maintaining routes from entities on the backbone network to the MS's current MSC, thereby limiting the need for Home Location Register (HLR) interrogation to the initial route establishment. See column 8, lines 47-67 of Billström.

The mechanisms disclosed by Billström for accelerating the reestablishment of a packet data transmission after a long period of time are thus limited to only parameters (authentication, routes) that do not change while the mobile station is located within the coverage area of the MSC. Thus, there is no indication of any transmission of signaling data from the mobile station to the network relating to transmission parameters of the radio interface to the base station. However, in the present application, a respective mobile station may transmit in an allocated time slot for signaling when no packet data is transmitted by the mobile station as recited, for example, in the last five lines of claim 18.

Further, Billström discloses that the initiation of packet transfer to the mobile station from its currently serving MSC is guided by monitoring the mobile station's cell location based on any previous packet transfer. Depending on the recentness of cell location information and other

mobile station operational parameters, packet transfer is initiated with or without paging. See column 9, lines 1-12 of Billström. In column 10, lines 25-31, Billström discloses that operational parameters relating to encryption, timers, cell location, peer entities, MS submode, subscription parameters, and location area identity, are stored in the PD controller database.

Thus, the reestablishment of packet transfer is only based on previous packet transfers and general parameters, and not on more recent additional signaling from the mobile station since the last data packet. Moreover, the fact that the recentness (timer) of the latest packet transfer is evaluated, clearly indicates that there is no permanent update mechanism for any parameter by additional signaling in between two consecutive packet transmissions.

In contrast to the teachings of Billström, the present invention uses an exclusively assigned time slot for signaling, which allows for permanent updating of relevant parameters for faster reestablishment of the packet transfer. Therefore, Billström does not disclose or suggest the operation recited in the last five lines of claim 18 of the present application.

Claim 33 recites limitations similar to claim 18. Therefore, Billström also does not disclose the features recited in claim 33 of the present application.

Claims 19-24 and claim 34 depend from claims 18 and 33, respectively. Therefore, for at least the reasons that claims 18 and 33 distinguish over the cited prior art, it is respectfully submitted that claims 19-24 and 34 also distinguish over the cited prior art.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

III. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 25 AND 26 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a) AS BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER BILLSTRÖM ET AL. IN VIEW OF HAMALAINEN ET AL. (USP# 5,640,395)

The comments in section II, above, also apply here because claims 25 and 26 depend from claim 18 and Hamalainen et al. does not suggest modifying Billström to overcome the deficiencies discussed above. Therefore, for at least the reasons that claim 18 distinguishes over the cited prior art, it is respectfully submitted that claims 25 and 26 also distinguish over the cited prior art.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

IV. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 31 AND 32 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a) AS BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER BILLSTRÖM ET AL. AND FURTHER IN VIEW OF HAMALAINEN ET AL. AND SOWLES ET AL. (USP# 5,659,545)

The comments in section II, above, also apply here because claims 31 and 32 depend from claim 18 and Sowles et al. and Hamalainen et al. do not suggest modifying Billström to overcome the deficiencies discussed above. Therefore, for at least the reasons that claim 18 distinguishes over the cited prior art, it is respectfully submitted that claims 31 and 32 also distinguish over the cited prior art.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

V. CONCLUSION

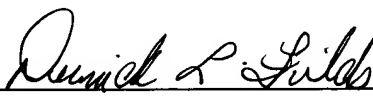
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that each of the claims patentably distinguishes over the prior art, and therefore defines allowable subject matter. A prompt and favorable reconsideration of the rejection along with an indication of allowability of all pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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